

State of Utah

Governor's Watershed Initiative

Utah Department of Agriculture and Food,

Utah Department of Environmental Quality,

Utah Department of Natural Resources



Where Life & Landscape

OLENE S. WALKER
Governor

GAYLE F. McKEACHNIE Lieutenant Governor



Contacts: Darin Bird, (801) 538-7300 Julie Breckonridge, (435) 673-3617

April 17, 2004 Governor's Watershed Initiative Take Pride in Utah Day

Lt. Governor Gayle McKeachnie Promotes Watershed Improvement in the Virgin River Watershed During Take Pride in Utah Day

Today, as part of the Governor's Watershed Initiative and the Adopt-A-Waterbody program, Utah Lieutenant Governor Gayle McKeachnie joined local high school students and adult volunteers as they removed the noxious weed

tamarisk and planted native vegetation near the Virgin River. McKeachnie also presented the Governor's Watershed Improvement Awards to project organizers.

This project and many others throughout the state are part of Governor Olene Walker's goal to improve watersheds and watershed awareness in Utah. The Virgin River watershed is on the list of 25 watersheds designated by the Governor for water quality improvements.

"It is my goal to provide for cleaner rivers and lakes, to enhance water yield and to increase public awareness and wise use of Utah's watersheds," said Utah Governor, Olene S. Walker. "Watersheds are important to all Utahns because they provide the life-giving supply of water that grows our food and provides for our needs."

The Governor is calling on individual volunteers, families and organizations to get involved by adopting a waterbody.

(more)

"We've set a lofty goal to take care of these vast areas, but together I know we can meet it. Our

watersheds are our life sheds," Walker said.

More information about the Governor's Watershed Initiative and the Adopt-A-Waterbody program is available on the Web at http://adoptawaterbody.utah.gov.

###